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1003 U.S. PTO

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner of Patents  
**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**TRANSMITTAL FOR A NEWLY EXECUTED ORIGINAL APPLICATION  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b)**

This is a request for filing a patent application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) for:

Inventors: Yasuhisa SHIMODA and Masaaki MATSUMOTO

For: INFORMATION RECORD APPARATUS, INFORMATION RECORD  
METHOD, AND INFORMATION RECORD MEDIUM

1. This is a new ☒ **Utility** ☐ **Design** ☐ **Plant** patent application.

2. The papers enclosed to obtain a filing date are as follows:

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| <u>39</u> | Pages of Specification including                |
| <u>0</u>  | Title Page                                      |
| <u>6</u>  | Pages of Claims                                 |
| <u>1</u>  | Page of Abstract                                |
| <u>9</u>  | Sheets of drawings containing <u>16</u> figures |
- ☐ The enclosed drawings are photographs, and there is also attached a  
PETITION TO ACCEPT PHOTOGRAPH(S) AS DRAWING(S)

3. Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney

- ☒ Enclosed and is executed by all inventors  
☐ Not Enclosed.  
This application is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.53(f).  
Applicant(s) await notification from the Patent and Trademark Office of  
the time set for filing the Declaration and paying the filing fees.

4. Language

- ☒ English  
☐ Non-English

This application is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.52(d) and §608.01 of the MPEP. Applicant(s) await notification from the Patent and Trademark Office of the time set for filing the verified English translation and the processing fee.

5. Assignment

☒ An assignment of the invention to Pioneer Corporation and a PTO Form-1595, Recordation Form Cover Sheet, are enclosed.

☐ An assignment will be filed at a later date.

6. Priority - foreign applications under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) or PCT international applications under 35 U.S.C. §365(a) designating at least one country other than the U.S.

☒ Priority of the following foreign application is claimed:

Country	Application No.	Filed
Japan	2000-292361	September 26, 2000

Certified copy: ☒ is attached. ☐ will follow.

7. Priority based on provisional application(s) - 35 U.S.C. §119(e)

☐ Priority of the following provisional application(s) is claimed:

Application No.	Filed

A. Relate Back - 35 U.S.C. §119(e)

- ☐ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:  
"This application claims priority of copending provisional application(s)  
No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed on \_\_\_\_\_."

## 8. Small entity status

- ☐ A statement claiming small entity status under 37 C.F.R. §1.27 is asserted for the present application.

## 9. Fee Calculation (37 C.F.R. §1.16)

	Number Filed	Number Extra	at Rate of	Basic Fee Utility \$710.00 Design \$320.00
Total Claims (37 C.F.R. §1.16(c))	11 - 20 =	0	18.00	\$0.00
Independent Claims (37 C.F.R. §1.16(b))	3 - 3 =	0	80.00	\$0.00
Multiple dependent claim(s), if any (37 C.F.R. §1.16(d))			270.00	
<b>SUB-TOTAL =</b>				<b>\$710.00</b>
Reduction by 1/2 for filing by a small entity				
<b>TOTAL FILING FEE =</b>				<b>\$710.00</b>

## 10. Fee Payment

- ☐ Not Enclosed. **NO FEE IS BEING PAID BY CHECK OR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AT THIS TIME.**

This application is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.53(f). Applicant(s) await notification from the Patent and Trademark Office of the time set for filing the Declaration and paying the filing fees.

- ☒ Enclosed.  
A check in the amount of **\$750.00** representing the basic filing fee of \$710.00 and an assignment recording fee of \$40.00 is enclosed.

11. ☒ **Except** for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. §1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3).
12. Additional papers enclosed:
- ☐ Preliminary Amendment
  - ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
  - ☐ Form PTO-1449, \_\_\_ document included
  - ☐ Declaration of Biological Deposit
  - ☐ Submission of "Sequence Listing", computer readable copy and/or amendment pertaining thereto for biotechnology invention containing nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence.

Please accord this application an application number and filing date.

Respectfully submitted,

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INFORMATION RECORD APPARATUS,  
INFORMATION RECORD METHOD, AND  
INFORMATION RECORD MEDIUM

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

This invention relates to an information record apparatus for performing power calibration when recording information on an optical information record medium such as a write-once optical disk or a rewritable optical disk, for example.

2. Description of the Related Art

In recent years, in addition to read-only CD (compact disk) and DVD (digital video disk or digital versatile disk), write-once (recordable) CD and DVD, rewritable CD and DVD, MD (mini disk), and the like have been developed for increasing the number of variations of the optical information record media.

In write-once (recordable) CD and DVD, which will be hereinafter collectively called write-once optical disk, write laser light is applied to a record film of an organic coloring matter material for forming record pits, thereby irreversibly recording information. In rewritable CD and DVD, which will be hereinafter collectively called rewritable optical disk, write laser light is applied to a phase change film for repeating crystallization and rendering amorphous, thereby reversibly recording information as circular or elliptic record pits. In

MD, magneto-optical recording is performed.

In an information record apparatus in a related art, to form a record pit in appropriate form in the write-once optical disk and rewritable optical disk for recording information, power calibration is conducted to adjust the emission power of a semiconductor laser for emitting write laser light, placed in a pickup at the setup time before essential information recording is performed.

In the power calibration, record pits are formed in a power calibration area provided at the inner radius of an optical disk and the emission power of the semiconductor laser is optimized based on the waveform provided, for example, by AC coupling a detection signal, called HF signal, provided by optically reading the record pits formed (namely, written for a try) in the power calibration area.

That is, as with the case where normal information reading is executed, reflected light from the power calibration area in which the record pits are formed is detected by a photodetector and outputs of the photodetector are combined, whereby the HF signal is generated. This means that the HF signal is a signal before equalizing to generate an RF signal, etc., is performed.

As the HF signal is thus generated, an eye pattern of the HF signal is provided. If the waveform is AC-coupled, top peak level of the waveform indicates the potential difference between the potential indicating the strength of reflected light

from a land where no record pit is formed and the potential of AC ground GND and bottom peak level a2 indicates the potential difference between the potential indicating the strength of reflected light from a record pit and the potential of AC ground GND, as shown in FIG. 7 (A).

The ratio between the peak-to-peak value of the HF signal (a1+a2) and the difference between the levels (a1-a2), which will be hereinafter referred to as  $\beta$  value, is found as shown in the following expression (1), and, for example, when  $\beta$  value=0 is adopted as the target of the power calibration, if the  $\beta$  value becomes almost 0, it is determined that the emission power P of the semiconductor laser is equal to target power Pw; if the waveform provided by AC coupling the HF signal becomes the waveform shown in FIG. 7 (B) and the  $\beta$  value becomes a negative value, it is determined that the emission power P of the semiconductor laser is smaller than the target power Pw; and if the waveform provided by AC coupling the HF signal becomes the waveform shown in FIG. 7 (C) and the  $\beta$  value becomes a positive value, it is determined that the emission power P of the semiconductor laser is larger than the target power Pw. The emission power P of the semiconductor laser is adjusted so as to become equal to the target power Pw based on each determination result.

$$\beta = (a1-a2)/(a1+a2) \quad (1)$$

Further, as a more specific example, the power calibration in the related art for CD-R will be discussed with reference to FIGS. 8 and 9.

In CD-R, as shown in FIG. 8 (A), a power calibration area PCA made up of a test area TA and a count area CA is previously allocated; the test area TA is an area for forming a record pit as trial write and the count area CA is an area to count the number of write times into the test area TA to locate the portion to execute trial write in the test area TA.

In the information record apparatus in the related art, as shown in a flowchart of FIG. 9, first a search is made for the write location of the count area CA (step S200) and a record to check the number of write times into the test area TA is entered in the write location (step S202) and then the pickup is moved to the location corresponding to the write location into the count area CA in the test area TA (step S204).

Next, the emission power  $P$  of the semiconductor laser is changed at  $n$  steps of recommended power as shown in FIG. 8 (B), whereby record pits REC at  $n$  steps are written for a try into a predetermined portion of the test area TA as shown in FIG. 8 (C) (step S206). That is, the emission power  $P$  is changed every predetermined time  $\tau$ , whereby the record pits REC at  $n$  steps corresponding to the  $n$  steps of the emission power  $P$  are written for a try.



Upon completion of the trial write, the record pits REC at n steps are optically read with the pickup to detect HF signals corresponding to the record pits at n steps (step S208).

Next, the calculation of the expression (1) shown above is performed based on each of the HF signals, whereby n  $\beta$  values ( $\beta_1$  to  $\beta_n$ ) are found (step S210) and whether or not a target  $\beta$  value is contained in the range of the  $\beta$  values ( $\beta_1$  to  $\beta_n$ ) is determined (step S212).

If the target  $\beta$  value lies in the range, the  $\beta$  value closest to the target  $\beta$  value is found and the emission power P corresponding to the  $\beta$  value is adopted as optimum power Popt for setting the emission power of the semiconductor laser (step S214) before the essential information recording is started.

If the target  $\beta$  value does not lie in the range, the n steps of the emission power are finely adjusted (step S216) and a search is made for a new data write location of the count area CA (step S218) and step S202 and the later steps are repeated. If the target  $\beta$  value is contained in the range at step S212, the power calibration is completed.

[Problems to be Solved by the Invention]

However, the power calibration in the related art requires a long time in optimizing the emission power of the semiconductor laser, prolonging the setup time before the essential information recording is started.

That is, as shown in FIGS. 8 (B) and 8 (C), if the emission

power of the semiconductor laser is changed at  $n$  steps for forming the record pits REC, the portion into which the record pits REC are written becomes a long duration of  $n \times \tau$ . Thus, for example, if eccentricity or side run-out occurs on the optical disk during the trial write, adversely affected record pits REC are written and if the portion into which the record pits REC are written is read and  $\beta$  values are found, it is made impossible to provide the  $\beta$  values corresponding to the record pits at  $n$  stages ( $\beta_1$  to  $\beta_n$ ) with good accuracy. Thus, as shown in the flowchart of FIG. 9, processing is repeated a large number of times until the  $\beta$  value equal to the target  $\beta$  value is provided, and the setup time is prolonged; this is a problem.

If eccentricity, side run-out, etc., occurs on the optical disk during the trial write and adversely affected record pits REC are written, the emission power of the semiconductor laser is optimized based on erroneous  $\beta$  values, namely, erroneous adjustment occurs and it becomes difficult to maintain and improve the accuracy of the power calibration; this is a problem.

Further, for an unrewritable optical information record medium, the power calibration is limited and if a large area used for one power calibration is taken, the remaining number of power calibration use times is reduced; this is also a problem.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is therefore an object of the invention to provide an information record apparatus and an information record method for making it possible to overcome the above-described problems and improve the accuracy of power calibration.

It is another object of the invention to provide an information record medium recording control information to improve the accuracy of power calibration for controlling an electronic machine based on the control information.

To the end, according to the invention, there is provided an information record apparatus for adjusting power of write light onto an optical information record medium, the information record apparatus comprising a light source for emitting the write light, a power adjustment section for adjusting the emission power of the write light, a write section for recording a record pit in the optical information record medium by applying write light emitted from the light source, a feature extraction section for extracting feature information of the record state containing the recorded record pit based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record state from the optical information record medium in which the record pit is formed, and a control section for causing the power adjustment section to adjust the emission power of the write light based on the feature information provided by the feature extraction section, characterized in that the write section records a record

pit in the optical information record medium by applying write light of predetermined power emitted from the light source, the feature extraction section extracts the feature information of the record state containing the recorded record pit based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record state, and the control section sets write light of a plurality of steps of power in the power adjustment section based on the feature information, then the write section records record pits at a plurality of steps in the optical information record medium by applying the write light of the plurality of steps of power, the feature extraction section extracts the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record states containing the record pits at the plurality of steps, and the control section determines that power of write light corresponding to the information closest to or almost equal to the target feature information, of the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps is appropriate write light power, and causes the power adjustment section to adjust the emission power of the write light.

In the information record apparatus, the write section records a plurality of sets of record pits at a plurality of steps in the optical information record medium by applying the write light of the plurality of steps of power, the feature

extraction section extracts the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits in the plurality of sets and at the plurality of steps based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record states containing the plurality of sets of the recorded record pits, and the control section finds average feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps, determines that power of write light corresponding to the information closest to or almost equal to the target feature information, of the average feature information is appropriate write light power, and causes the power adjustment section to adjust the emission power of the write light.

According to the information record apparatus having the configuration, a record pit is recorded in the optical information record medium by applying write light of predetermined power, the feature information of the record state is extracted based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record pit in the record portion, and write light of a plurality of steps of power is set based on the feature information. Next, record pits at a plurality of steps are recorded in the optical information record medium by applying the write light of the plurality of steps of power, the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps is extracted based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record states

containing the record pits at the plurality of steps, it is determined that power of write light corresponding the information closest to or almost equal to the target feature information, of the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps is appropriate write light power, and the emission power of the write light is adjusted.

Thus, trial write onto the optical information record medium is executed by applying the write light of the predetermined power, whereby write light of the plurality of steps of power for trial write to determine appropriate write light power are determined, and trial write onto the optical information record medium is executed by applying the write light of the plurality of steps of power, the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps is extracted based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record states containing the record pits at the plurality of steps, it is determined that power of write light corresponding the information closest to or almost equal to the target feature information, of the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps is the appropriate write light power, and the emission power of the write light is optimized, so that the time required for the power calibration can be shortened.

A plurality of sets of record pits at a plurality of steps

are recorded in the optical information record medium by applying the write light of the plurality of steps of power, the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits in the plurality of sets and at the plurality of steps is extracted based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record states containing the plurality of sets of the recorded record pits, average feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps is found, it is determined that power of write light corresponding the information closest to or almost equal to the target feature information, of the average feature information is appropriate write light power, and the emission power of the write light is optimized.

The appropriate write light power is determined based on the average feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps, thereby improving the accuracy of power calibration.

To the end, according to the invention, there is provided an information record method for adjusting power of write light onto an optical information record medium, the information record method comprising the steps of recording a record pit in the optical information record medium by applying write light of specific power or predetermined power emitted from a light source and extracting feature information of the record state containing the recorded record pit based on the signal waveform

provided by optically reproducing the record state, setting write light of a plurality of steps of power based on the feature information, then recording record pits at a plurality of steps in the optical information record medium by applying the write light of the plurality of steps of power and extracting the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record states containing the record pits at the plurality of steps, and determining that power of write light corresponding to the information closest to or almost equal to the target feature information, of the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps is appropriate write light power, and adjusting the write light power.

According to the information record method of the invention, a record pit is recorded in the optical information record medium by applying write light of predetermined power, the feature information of the record state is extracted based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record pit in the record portion, and write light of a plurality of steps of power is set based on the difference between the feature information and the target feature information. Next, record pits at a plurality of steps are recorded in the optical information record medium by applying the write light of the plurality of steps of power, the feature information of the



record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps is extracted based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record states containing the record pits at the plurality of steps, it is determined that power of write light corresponding the information closest to or almost equal to the target feature information, of the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps is appropriate write light power, and the emission power of the write light is adjusted.

To the end, according to the invention, there is provided an information record medium recording control information for controlling an information record apparatus for recording information by adjusting power of write light emitted from a light source, the control information for adjusting the power of the write light, the control information for controlling the information record apparatus, thereby recording a record pit in the optical information record medium by applying write light of specific power or predetermined power emitted from the light source and extracting feature information of the record state containing the recorded record pit based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record state, setting write light of a plurality of steps of power based on the feature information, then recording record pits at a plurality of steps in the optical information record medium by applying the write light of the plurality of steps of power

and extracting the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record states containing the record pits at the plurality of steps, and determining that power of write light corresponding to information closest to or almost equal to target feature information, of the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps is appropriate write light power, and adjusting the power of the write light emitted from the light source based on the determination result.

According to the information record medium of the invention, if the recorded control information is executed in an electronic machine such as a personal computer, it is made possible to emulate the function of the information record apparatus implemented as hardware and record information by applying write light of appropriate power.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a block diagram to show the configuration of an information record apparatus of an embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 2 is a drawing to show data stored in a storage section in the embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 3 is a drawing to show the format of a calibration

area of CD-R.

FIG. 4 is a flowchart to describe the operation of the embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 5 is a drawing to describe the principle for setting the optimum emission power in the embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 6 is a waveform chart to describe the principle for finding  $\alpha$  value from HF signal.

FIG. 7 is a waveform chart to describe the principle for finding  $\beta$  value from HF signal.

FIG. 8 is a drawing to describe the principle for setting the optimum emission power in a related art.

FIG. 9 is a flowchart to describe a method for setting the optimum emission power in the related art.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

Referring now to the accompanying drawings, there is shown a preferred embodiment of the invention. FIG. 1 is a block diagram to show the configuration of an information record apparatus 1 of an embodiment.

In the figure, the information record apparatus 1 comprises a spindle motor 2, a pickup 3, and a carriage 4 on which the pickup 3 is mounted.

The spindle motor 2 is spindle-servoed by a servo circuit 5 and rotates a write-once or rewritable optical disk DSK placed at a clamp position at a predetermined linear speed.

The pickup 3 comprises a semiconductor laser (not shown), an optical system (not shown) comprising an object lens, and a photodetector (not shown) formed of a photodiode, etc.

To record information, write laser light of predetermined power optimized by light pulse strategy is emitted from the semiconductor laser and is made to converge by the optical system, whereby a write light beam is generated, and a spot of the write light beam is applied to the optical disk DSK through the object lens for forming a record pit in a record film of the optical disk DSK.

When information is reproduced, read laser light of predetermined power is emitted from the semiconductor laser and is made to converge by the optical system, whereby a read light beam is generated, and a spot of the read light beam is applied to the optical disk DSK through the object lens. Reflected light from the optical disk DSK is gathered by the optical system and a photoelectric conversion signal Sdt provided by executing photoelectric conversion of the reflected light by the photodetector is supplied to an RF amplification section 7. Accordingly, an HF signal SHF having information of the optical disk DSK is supplied from the RF amplification section 7 to an HF signal feature extraction section 6.

The above-mentioned light pulse strategy is a technique wherein record pits are formed in appropriate form by optimized laser light emitted from a semiconductor laser as the form of

a light pulse relative to the record mark length is adjusted, so that a high-quality reproduction signal with occurrence of jitter, etc., suppressed can be provided when information is reproduced.

The carriage 4 is carriage-servoed by the servo circuit 5 and moves the pickup 3 in the direction of the radius of the optical disk DSK.

The pickup 3 is provided with an actuator (not shown) for driving the object lens contained in the optical system and the servo circuit 5 controls the actuator, thereby performing focus servo and tracking servo.

In addition to the HF signal feature extraction section 6 and the RF amplification section 7, the information record apparatus 1 further comprises a decoder section 8, an output section 9, an input section 10, an encoder section 11, a record power adjustment section 12, a system controller 13, a storage section 14, and an operation/display section 15.

The system controller 13 has a microprocessor or microprocessing unit (MPU) and performs centralized control of the whole operation of the information record apparatus 1 in addition to control of power calibration described later by executing a predetermined system program.

The storage section 14 is implemented as nonvolatile memory of SRAM etc., and stores  $n$  pieces of variable data ( $Dc1k$ ,  $Dc2k$ , ...,  $Dcnk$ ) to variably set the recommended emission power

of the semiconductor laser at  $n$  steps. In the embodiment,  $n=15$  steps.

Further, the storage section 14 stores target  $\beta$  value data  $\beta_k$  for each optical disk DSK type  $k$ , as shown in FIG. 2.

Here, the target  $\beta$  value data  $\beta_k$  is data indicating each  $\beta$  value when calculation of the expression (1) shown above is performed based on the HF signal recorded in a state in which the record state of each type of optical disk satisfies the predetermined specification and a sufficient margin is taken for variations in record state; the target  $\beta$  value data  $\beta_k$  is previously found by experiment. The letter  $k$  denotes the optical disk type.

The operation/display section 15 comprises an operation section for the user to perform entry operation of starting to record information, etc., and a display section for displaying the operation status, an operation menu, etc., of the information record apparatus 1.

The input section 10 performs preprocessing of converting an external input signal  $S_{in}$  at the information recording time into digital input data  $D_{in}$ , etc., and the encoder section 11 EFM-modulates the digital input data  $D_{in}$ , etc., thereby generating record data DWT.

The record power adjustment section 12 generates an optimum pulse by light pulse strategy from the record data DWT, generates a current  $I_d$  of a pulse train based on the optimum

pulse, and supplies the current  $I_d$  to the semiconductor laser in the pickup for emitting write laser light. The current value of the current  $I_d$  is adjusted in accordance with specification from the system controller 13, whereby the emission power of the semiconductor laser is controlled.

When information is recorded, the record power adjustment section 12 generates the current  $I_d$  of a pulse train by the light pulse strategy and drives the semiconductor laser in the pickup, thereby emitting pulse-like write laser light; when information is reproduced, the record power adjustment section 12 supplies a current  $I_d$  of a constant value to the semiconductor laser, thereby emitting read laser light of constant power.

When the photoelectric conversion signal  $S_{dt}$  is supplied from the photodetector placed in the pickup 3 to the RF amplification section 7 and the HF signal SHF generated by the RF amplification section 7 based on the photoelectric conversion signal  $S_{dt}$  is supplied to the HF signal feature extraction section 6, the HF signal feature extraction section 6 detects levels of the waveform of the HF signal SHF. Top peak level  $a_1$  corresponding to the potential difference between the potential indicating the strength of reflected light from a land where no record pit is formed and the potential of AC ground GND and bottom peak level  $a_2$  corresponding to the potential difference between the potential indicating the strength of reflected light from a record pit and the potential of AC ground

GND are detected, as shown in FIG. 7, and the detection result of the top peak level a1 and the bottom peak level a2 is supplied to the system controller 13 as feature data DHF indicating the record state of the optical disk DSK.

The system controller 13 performs calculation of the expression (1) shown above based on the feature data DHF to find a  $\beta$  value.

The RF amplification section 7 generates the HF signal SHF and also generates an RF signal SRF from the HF signal SHF and supplies the RF signal SRF to the decoder section 8, which then performs processing of EFM demodulation, etc., for the RF signal SRF and supplies the result to the output section 9, which then performs processing of D/A conversion, etc., for the data from the decoder section 8 and outputs an output signal Sout.

The RF amplification section 7 generates an error signal of a focus error, a tracking error, and the like from the photoelectric conversion signal Sdt and supplies the error signal to the servo circuit 5, whereby various servos such as focus servo and tracking servo are performed.

Next, the operation of the described information record apparatus 1, mainly the operation for performing power calibration to optimize the emission power of the semiconductor laser placed in the pickup 3 will be discussed. The power calibration operation for recording information on CD-R will



be discussed as a typical example.

First, as shown in FIG. 3, in CD-R, a power calibration area PCA is previously allocated to a portion on the disk center side (at the inner radius of the optical disk) from a read-in area, and is made up of a test area TA and a count area CA.

The test area TA is provided for forming a record pit as trial write by write laser light emitted from the semiconductor laser. The count area CA is provided for counting the number of records already made in the test area TA, and one frame is recorded in response to one record (trial write).

FIG. 4 is a flowchart to describe the power calibration operation. When the user gives a record start command, power calibration is conducted under the control of the system controller 13.

In FIG. 4, first at step S100, the pickup 3 is moved to the count area CA for reproducing information. The HF signal SHF generated as the information is reproduced is checked.

Next, at step S102, a portion where data is already recorded is checked based on the provided HF signal SHF and a search is made for the location one frame before the already recorded portion.

Next, at step S104, the information record apparatus 1 is set to an information record mode and data is recorded by fixed recommended emission power  $P_k$  starting at the location one frame before the already recorded portion in the count area

CA. That is, as shown in FIG. 5 (A), data is recorded starting at the location one frame before the already recorded portion in the count area CA by the recommended emission power  $P_k$  of a constant value predetermined for CR-R.

The recommended emission power  $P_k$  can also be changed based on information previously written on the disk, etc.

Next, at step S106, the information record apparatus 1 is again set to an information reproduction mode and the data recorded in the count area CA is read. At step S108,  $\beta$  value  $\beta_{ca}$  is calculated based on the feature data DHF provided from the HF signal SHF.

Next, at step S110, the difference between the  $\beta$  value  $\beta_{ca}$  and the target  $\beta$  value  $\beta_k$  is found and  $m$  steps of emission power corresponding to the difference value ( $\beta_{ca}-\beta_k$ ) are determined. That is, as shown in FIG. 5 (B),  $m$  recommended emission powers  $P_L$  to  $P_H$  preceding and following the recommended emission power  $P_k$  corresponding to the difference value ( $\beta_{ca}-\beta_k$ ) as the center are selected from among  $n$  recommended emission powers corresponding to the variable data pieces ( $Dc11, Dc21, \dots, Dcn1$ ) in the storage section 14. In the embodiment,  $m$  is determined five ( $m=5$ ).

Accordingly, as shown in FIG. 5 (C),  $m$ =five recommended emission powers  $P_L$  to  $P_H$  are selected from among the  $n=15$  recommended emission powers corresponding to the variable data pieces ( $Dc11, Dc21, \dots, Dcn1$ ) and further  $m$ =five variable data

pieces corresponding to the  $m$ =five recommended emission powers PL to PH are determined to be variable data for trial write.

For example, if the recommended emission power  $P_k$  corresponding to the difference value  $(\beta_{ca}-\beta_k)$  corresponds to variable data piece Dc17, variable data pieces (Dc15, Dc16, Dc17, Dc18, and Dc19) are determined to be variable data for trial write.

Next, at step S112, the pickup 3 is moved to the location of the test area corresponding to the data written into the count area CA.

Next, at step S114, the information record apparatus 1 is again set to the information record mode and the system controller 13 varies the emission power  $P$  of the semiconductor laser based on the variable data for trial write and writes record pits at  $m$  steps into the test area TA for a try. In the embodiment, trial write based on the variable data for trial write is executed three times.

That is, as shown as symbols PT1 to PT3 in FIG. 5 (A), when the first trial write PT1 is executed based on the variable data for trial write, subsequently the second trial write PT2 is executed based on the variable data for trial write and further subsequently the third trial write PT3 is executed based on the variable data for trial write. Therefore, trial write of the record pits at  $m$  steps by the  $m$  steps of the emission powers PL to PH shown in FIG. 5 (C) is executed three times. Each

step of the emission powers PL to PH is every predetermined required time  $\tau$ . Accordingly, three trial write portions REC1 to REC3 are formed in the test area TA of the optical disk, as shown in FIG. 5 (D).

For example, for CD-R, if the required time  $\tau$  for one step is set to one ATIP frame and five steps are repeated three times for executing trial write in the test area TA of power calibration, three times at each step are separated almost at angles of 120 degrees each relative to the disk center and are averaged, whereby it is made possible to cancel the effects of side run-out, eccentricity, etc., of the disk.

Next, at step S116, the information record apparatus 1 is again set to the information reproduction mode and the three trial write portions REC1 to REC3 are read, whereby reference data DHF having information in each of the trial write portions REC1 to REC3 is acquired. Next, at step S118,  $\beta$  values ( $\beta_{11}$  to  $\beta_{1m}$ ),  $\beta$  values ( $\beta_{21}$  to  $\beta_{2m}$ ), and  $\beta$  values ( $\beta_{31}$  to  $\beta_{3m}$ ) corresponding to the trial write portions REC1 to REC3 are calculated based on the reference data DHF. That is, the  $m$   $\beta$  values ( $\beta_{11}$  to  $\beta_{1m}$ ) are calculated based on the  $m$  reference data pieces DHF provided corresponding to the trial write portion REC1, the  $m$   $\beta$  values ( $\beta_{21}$  to  $\beta_{2m}$ ) are calculated based on the  $m$  reference data pieces DHF provided corresponding to the trial write portion REC2, and the  $m$   $\beta$  values ( $\beta_{31}$  to  $\beta_{3m}$ ) are calculated based on the  $m$  reference data pieces DHF provided corresponding

to the trial write portion REC3.

Next, at step S120, average values of the  $\beta$  values,  $\beta_{AV1}$  to  $\beta_{AVm}$ , are calculated for each of  $m$  steps of the  $\beta$  values ( $\beta_{11}$  to  $\beta_{1m}$ ), ( $\beta_{21}$  to  $\beta_{2m}$ ), and ( $\beta_{31}$  to  $\beta_{3m}$ ) as shown in the following expressions (2-1) to (2-m):

$$\beta_{AV1} = (\beta_{11} + \beta_{21} + \beta_{31}) / 3 \quad (2-1)$$

$$\beta_{AV2} = (\beta_{12} + \beta_{22} + \beta_{32}) / 3 \quad (2-2)$$

$$\beta_{AVm} = (\beta_{1m} + \beta_{2m} + \beta_{3m}) / 3 \quad (2-m)$$

Next, at step S122, whether or not the target  $\beta$  value  $\beta_k$  lies in the range of the average values  $\beta_{AV1}$  to  $\beta_{AVm}$  is determined. If the target  $\beta$  value  $\beta_k$  lies in the range (Yes at step S122), control goes to step S124 and the emission power corresponding to the average value closest to the target  $\beta$  value  $\beta_k$ , of the average values  $\beta_{AV1}$  to  $\beta_{AVm}$  is determined the optimum emission power  $P_{opt}$  and further the variable data for trial write corresponding to the optimum emission power  $P_{opt}$  is adopted as the data to set the optimum emission power (optimum data).

Next, at step S124, the optimum data is stored in the storage section 14 as history data and then is supplied to the record power adjustment section 12, whereby an instruction is given so as to adjust the drive current  $I_d$  based on the optimum data when actual information recording is executed, the pickup

3 is moved to the program area of the optical disk DSK, and a wait is made until actual information recording is started. The power calibration is now complete.

On the other hand, if the target  $\beta$  value  $\beta_k$  does not lie in the range of the average values  $\beta_{AV1}$  to  $\beta_{AVm}$  (No) at step S122, control goes to step S126 to again conduct the power calibration from the beginning, and the  $m$  steps of the emission powers PL to PH determined at the preceding time are adjusted so as to provide the target  $\beta$  value, thereby determining new  $m$  steps of emission powers PL to PH for trial write. In the adjustment at step S126, the  $m$  steps of emission powers PL to PH for trial write are finely adjusted in a predetermined amount at a time.

The processing at steps S112 to S122 is repeated. In the repetitive processing, at step S114, trial write into the test area TA is executed based on the  $m$  steps of emission powers PL to PH for trial write finely adjusted, the trial write portions are read at step S116,  $\beta$  values are calculated based on the HF signals SHF provided by reading the trial write portions at step S118, new average values  $\beta_{AV1}$  to  $\beta_{AVm}$  are calculated based on the  $\beta$  values at step S120, and whether or not the target  $\beta$  value  $\beta_k$  lies in the range of the new average values  $\beta_{AV1}$  to  $\beta_{AVm}$  is determined at step S122.

If the average value closest to the target  $\beta$  value  $\beta_k$  is found from among the average values  $\beta_{AV1}$  to  $\beta_{AVm}$  by performing

the repetitive processing in the order of steps S100 to S104, S126, and S112 to S122, step S124 is executed and the power calibration is completed, as described above. Again if the target  $\beta$  value  $\beta_k$  does not lie in the range of the average values  $\beta_{AV1}$  to  $\beta_{AVm}$ , the repetitive processing is performed in the order of steps S100 to S104 and S120 and if the target  $\beta$  value  $\beta_k$  lies in the range of the average values  $\beta_{AV1}$  to  $\beta_{AVm}$  and the closest average value is found accordingly, the power calibration is completed.

As described above, according to the embodiment, recording in the count area CA is executed by the recommended emission power, m steps of emission power for trial write are determined based on the difference value between the  $\beta$  value and the target  $\beta$  value ( $\beta_{ca}-\beta_k$ ) provided by the recording, and trial write into the test area TA is executed by the emission power for trial write.

That is, the m steps of emission power for trial write are determined based on the difference value ( $\beta_{ca}-\beta_k$ ) provided from the record portion based on the recommended emission power  $P_k$  in the count area and thus the emission power for trial write to record in the test area TA is preset to a value close to the optimum emission power.

Thus, in the embodiment, the optimum emission power  $P_{opt}$  can be found at higher speed as compared with case where trial write into the test area TA is executed based on a large number

of steps ( $n=15$ ) of emission power and is repeated until the target  $\beta$  value is obtained as in the related art. Further, recording in the test area TA is executed based on a limited number of  $m$  steps of emission power for trial write less than the number of steps  $n$  and thus the power calibration area can be saved and the optimum emission power  $P_{opt}$  can be found at higher speed.

Further, for example, if eccentricity, side run-out or occurs on the optical disk during the trial write, a plurality of pits are recorded in the test area TA based on the emission power for trial write and the optimum emission power  $P_{opt}$  is determined based on the average value of the  $\beta$  values provided by recording the pits and thus the optimum emission power  $P_{opt}$  can be found at higher speed without being affected by side run-out or occurs on the optical disk.

In the embodiment, the  $\beta$  value is adopted as the optimization condition, but the invention is not limited to it. The value of asymmetry of the waveform itself of HF signal SHF as shown in FIG. 6 may be applied as the feature information for optimization in place of the  $\beta$  value.

That is, as shown in FIG. 6, top peak level  $a1$  of the HF signal SHF corresponding to the strength of reflected light from a land where no record pit is formed in optical disk, bottom peak level  $a2$  corresponding to the strength of reflected light from a large record pit, top peak level  $b1$  corresponding to



the strength of reflected light from a land between small record pits, and bottom peak level b2 corresponding to the strength of reflected light from a small record pit are detected and the detected levels a1, a2, b1, and b2 are applied to the following expression (3), thereby finding the value of asymmetry, which will be hereinafter referred to as  $\alpha$  value:

$$\alpha = \{(a1+a2) - (b1+b2)\} / \{2 \times (a1-a2)\} \quad (3)$$

The target  $\alpha$  value data corresponding to each type of disk is previously stored in the storage section 14 in place of the target  $\beta$  value data  $\beta_k$ , and the  $\alpha$  values may be applied in the processing shown in FIG. 4, 5 in place of the  $\beta$  values for performing the power calibration.

Modulation depths may be adopted as the optimization condition in place of using the  $\beta$  values as the optimization condition.

That is, modulation depth M found by detecting the top peak level a1 and the bottom peak level a2 of the HF signal SHF output from the RF amplification section 7 and performing calculation of the following expression (4) may be adopted as the optimization condition:

$$M = (a1-a2)/a1 \quad (4)$$

The target modulation depth data corresponding to each type of disk is previously stored in the storage section 14 in place of the target  $\beta$  value data  $\beta_k$ , and the modulation depths may be applied in the processing shown in FIG. 4, 5 in place of the  $\beta$  values for performing the power calibration.

Further, in the embodiment described above, the information record apparatus implemented as hardware has been described, but the invention is not limited to it. For example, the hardware configuration of the information record apparatus of the embodiment may be implemented as a computer program (emulator) and an electronic machine containing a microprocessor, such as a personal computer, may be controlled based on the computer program for delivering functions equal to those of the information record apparatus implemented as hardware.

The computer program may be recorded on an information record medium, such as CD (compact disk) or DVD (digital video disk or digital versatile disk), as an application file and the application file may be installed in or downloaded into an electronic machine such as a personal computer capable of playing back the information record medium for executing the computer program.

As described above, according to the invention, recording on an optical disk is executed by applying the write light of

the predetermined power, whereby write light of the plurality of steps of power for trial write to determine appropriate write light power are determined, and trial write onto the optical disk is executed by applying the write light of the plurality of steps of power, the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps is extracted based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record states containing the record pits at the plurality of steps, it is determined that power of write light corresponding the information closest to or almost equal to the target feature information, of the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps is the appropriate write light power, and the emission power of the write light is optimized, so that it is made possible to save the power calibration area and the time required for the power calibration can be shortened.

A plurality of sets of record pits at a plurality of steps are written for a try in the optical disk by applying the write light of the plurality of steps of power, the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits in the plurality of sets and at the plurality of steps is extracted based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record states containing the plurality of sets of the record pits written for a try, average feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps

is found, it is determined that power of write light corresponding the information closest to or almost equal to the target feature information, of the average feature information is appropriate write light power, and the emission power of the write light is optimized. Thus, the effects of side run-out, eccentricity, unevenness, etc., of the optical information record medium can be suppressed and the accuracy of the power calibration can be improved.

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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information record apparatus for adjusting power of write light onto an optical information record medium, the information record apparatus comprising:

a light source for emitting the write light having a predetermined power;

a power adjustment section for adjusting the emission power of the write light;

a write section for applying the write light emitted from the light source to record a record pit in the optical information record medium;

a feature extraction section for optically reproducing a record state containing the record pit from the optical information record medium to produce a first signal waveform, the feature extraction section extracting feature information of the record state from the first signal waveform; and

a control section for controlling the power adjustment section to set a plurality of write light each having a different emission power based on the feature information provided by the feature extraction section,

wherein after the power adjustment section sets the plurality of write light,

the write section records a plurality of record pits in the optical information record medium by applying the plurality of write light;

the feature extraction section optically reproduces a plurality of record states containing the record pits correspondingly to produce a second signal waveform, and extracts the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits based on the second signal waveform; and

the control section determines that power of write light corresponding to information closest to or almost equal to target feature information, of the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits is appropriate write light power, and controls the power adjustment section to adjust the emission power of the write light.

2. The information record apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the write section records a plurality sets of record pits in the optical information record medium;

the feature extraction section extracts the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits in the plurality sets based on a signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record states containing the plurality sets of the recorded record pits; and

the control section finds average feature information of the record state for each of the record pits in the plurality sets, determines that power of write light corresponding to

information closest to or almost equal to target feature information, of the average feature information is appropriate write light power, and controls the power adjustment section to adjust the emission power of the write light.

3. The information record apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the predetermined power of the write light is set based on characteristic information recorded on the optical information record medium in advance.

4. The information record apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the control section sets the plurality of write light based on a difference between the feature information and the target feature information.

5. The information record apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the feature information and the target feature information are  $\beta$  values.

6. The information record apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the feature information and the target feature information are values of asymmetry of the first or second signal waveform provided by optically reproducing.

7. The information record apparatus as claimed in

claim 1 wherein the feature information and the target feature information are modulation depths.

8. The information record apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the optical information record medium is CD-R.

9. The information record apparatus as claimed in claim 8 wherein the write section records in a count area provided in the CD-R by applying write light of fixed power and records a plurality of record pits at in a test area of the CD-R by applying a plurality of write light each different in power.

10. An information record method for adjusting power of write light onto an optical information record medium, the information record method comprising the steps of:

applying write light having specific power or predetermined power emitted from a light source to record a record pit in the optical information record medium;

optically reproducing a record state containing the record pit to produce a first signal waveform;

extracting feature information of the record state based on the first signal waveform;

setting a plurality of write light each having a different emission power based on the feature information,

applying the plurality of write light to record a plurality



of record pits in the optical information record medium;

optically reproducing a plurality of record states containing the record pits to produce a second signal waveform;

extracting the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits based on the second signal waveform;

determining that power of write light corresponding to information closest to or almost equal to target feature information, of the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits is appropriate write light power; and

adjusting the power of the write light.

11. An information record medium recording a control information program to be executed in a computer, the control information program comprising:

applying write light having specific power or predetermined power emitted from a light source to record a record pit in the optical information record medium;

optically reproducing a record state containing the record pit to produce a first signal waveform;

extracting feature information of the record state based on the first signal waveform;

setting a plurality of write light each having a different emission power based on the feature information,

applying the plurality of write light to record a plurality

of record pits in the optical information record medium;

optically reproducing a plurality of record states containing the record pits to produce a second signal waveform;

extracting the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits based on the second signal waveform;

determining that power of write light corresponding to information closest to or almost equal to target feature information, of the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits is appropriate write light power; and

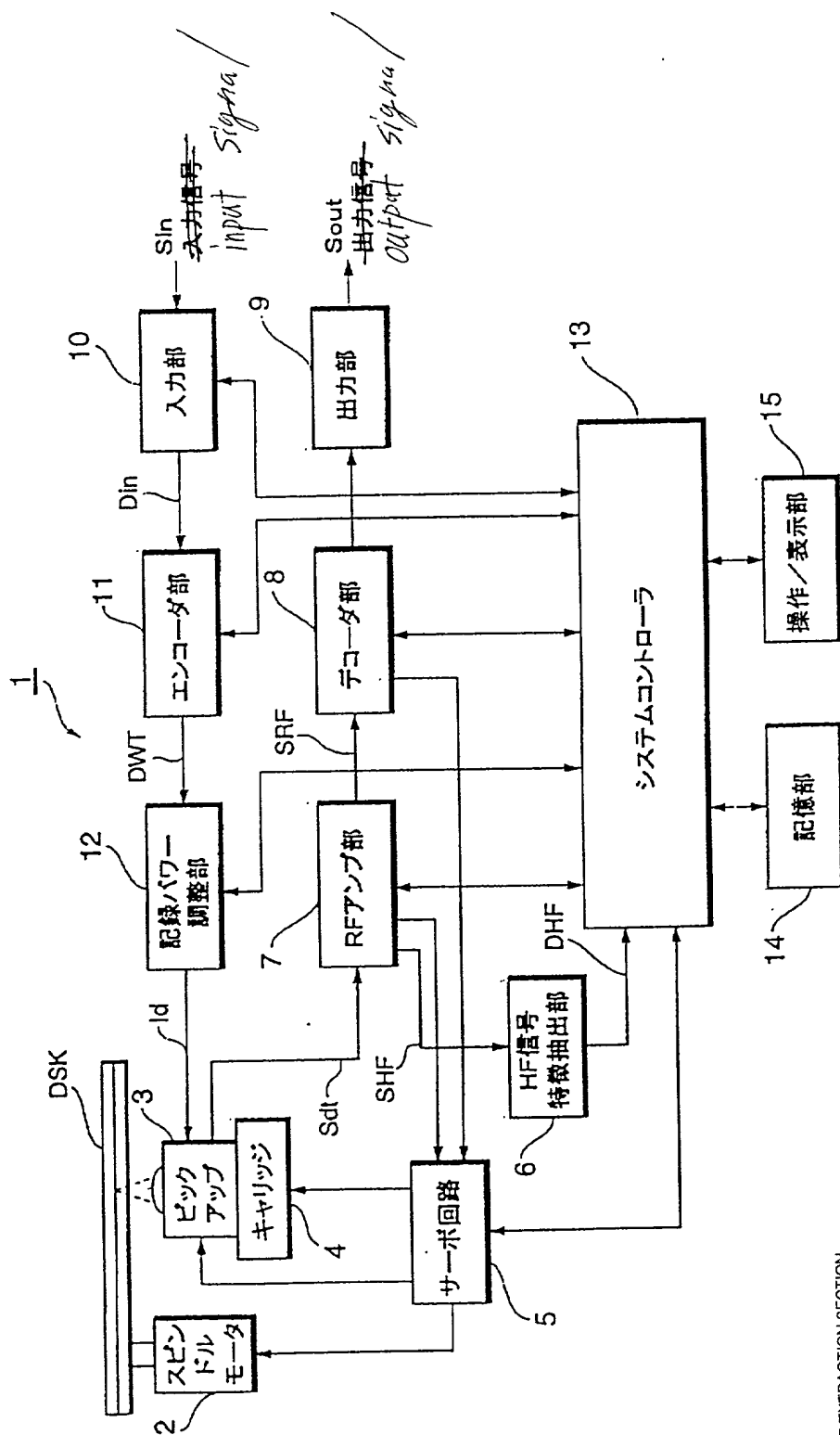
adjusting the power of the write light.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A record pit is recorded in an optical information record medium by applying write light of predetermined power, the feature information of the record state is extracted based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record pit in as recorded, and write light of a plurality of steps of power is set based on the difference between the feature information and the target feature information. Record pits at a plurality of steps are written for a try in the optical information record medium by applying the write light of the plurality of steps of power, the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps is extracted based on the signal waveform provided by optically reproducing the record states containing the record pits at the plurality of steps, it is determined that power of write light corresponding the information almost equal to the target feature information, of the feature information of the record state for each of the record pits at the plurality of steps is appropriate write light power, and the emission power of the write light is adjusted.

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Fig.



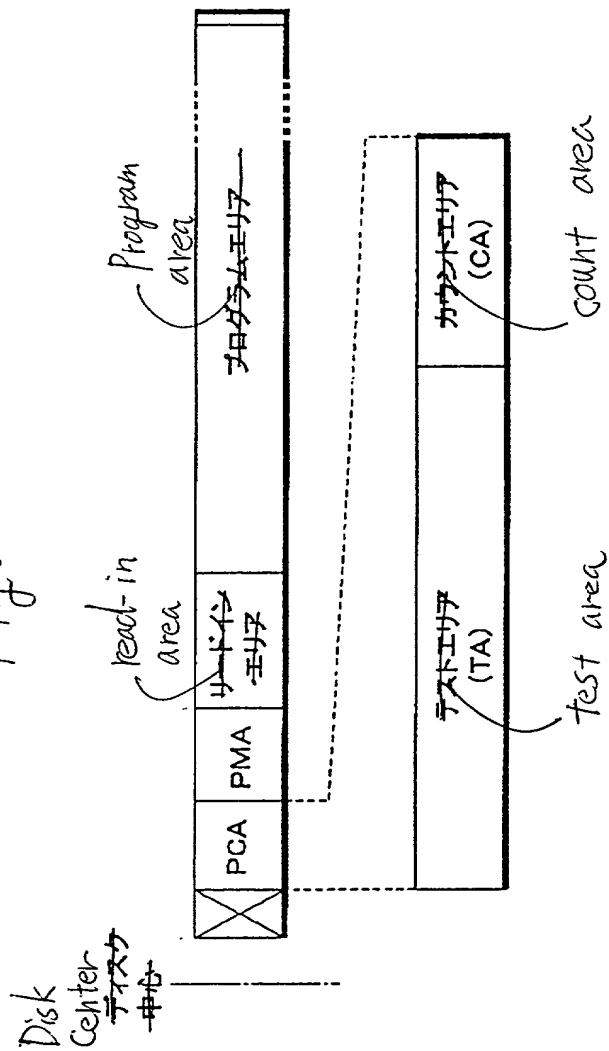
- 2 SPINDLE MOTOR
- 3 PICKUP
- 4 CARRIAGE
- 5 SERVO CIRCUIT
- 6 HF SIGNAL FEATURE EXTRACTION SECTION
- 7 RF AMPLIFICATION SECTION
- 8 DECODER SECTION
- 9 OUTPUT SECTION
- 10 INPUT SECTION
- 11 ENCODER SECTION
- 12 RECORD POWER ADJUSTMENT SECTION
- 13 SYSTEM CONTROLLER
- 14 STORAGE SECTION
- 15 OPERATION/DISPLAY SECTION

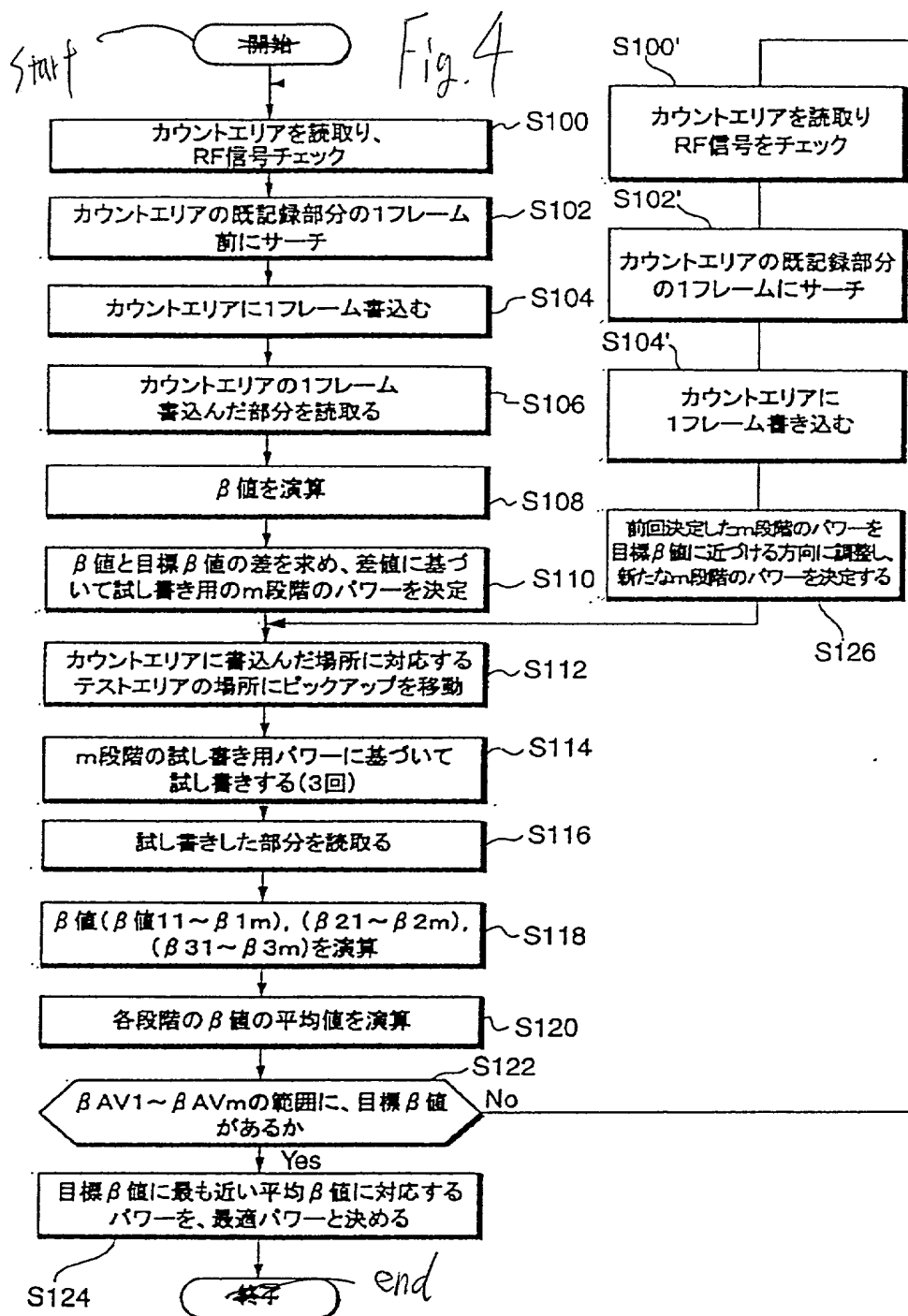
Fig. 2

Disk type. ディスクの種類 (k)	target $\beta$ value Data. <del>目標 <math>\beta</math> 値データ</del> $\beta_k$
光ディスクA(k=1)	$\beta_1$
光ディスクB(k=2)	$\beta_2$
光ディスクC(k=3)	$\beta_3$
光ディスクD(k=4)	$\beta_4$

Optical  
disk

Fig. 3





- S100 READ COUNT AREA AND CHECK RF SIGNAL
- S102 SEARCH FOR LOCATION ONE FRAME BEFORE ALREADY RECORDED PORTION OF COUNT AREA
- S104 WRITE ONE FRAME INTO COUNT AREA
- S106 READ PORTION OF COUNT AREA INTO WHICH ONE FRAME IS WRITTEN
- S108 CALCULATE  $\beta$  value
- S110 FIND DIFFERENCE BETWEEN  $\beta$  value AND TARGET  $\beta$  value AND DETERMINE  $M$  STEPS OF POWER FOR TRIAL WRITE BASED ON DIFFERENCE VALUE
- S112 MOVE PICKUP TO LOCATION OF TEST AREA CORRESPONDING TO DATA WRITTEN INTO THE COUNT AREA
- S114 EXECUTE TRIAL WRITE THREE TIMES BASED ON  $M$  STEPS OF TRIAL WRITE POWER
- S116 READ TRIAL WRITE PORTIONS
- S118 CALCULATE  $\beta$  values ( $\beta_{11}$  TO  $\beta_{1m}$ ), ( $\beta_{21}$  TO  $\beta_{2m}$ ), AND ( $\beta_{31}$  TO  $\beta_{3m}$ )
- S120 CALCULATE AVERAGE VALUE OF  $\beta$  values AT EACH STEP
- S122 DOES TARGET  $\beta$  value LIE IN RANGE OF  $\beta_{AV1}$  TO  $\beta_{AVm}$ ?
- S124 DETERMINE THAT POWER CORRESPONDING TO AVERAGE  $\beta$  value CLOSEST TO TARGET  $\beta$  value IS OPTIMUM POWER
- S126 ADJUST  $M$  STEPS OF POWER DETERMINED AT THE PRECEDING TIME IN DIRECTION OF BRINGING CLOSE TO TARGET  $\beta$  value AND DETERMINE NEW  $M$  STEPS OF POWER
- S100' READ COUNT AREA AND CHECK RF SIGNAL
- S102' SEARCH FOR LOCATION ONE FRAME BEFORE ALREADY RECORDED PORTION OF COUNT AREA
- S104' WRITE ONE FRAME INTO COUNT AREA

Fig. 5A

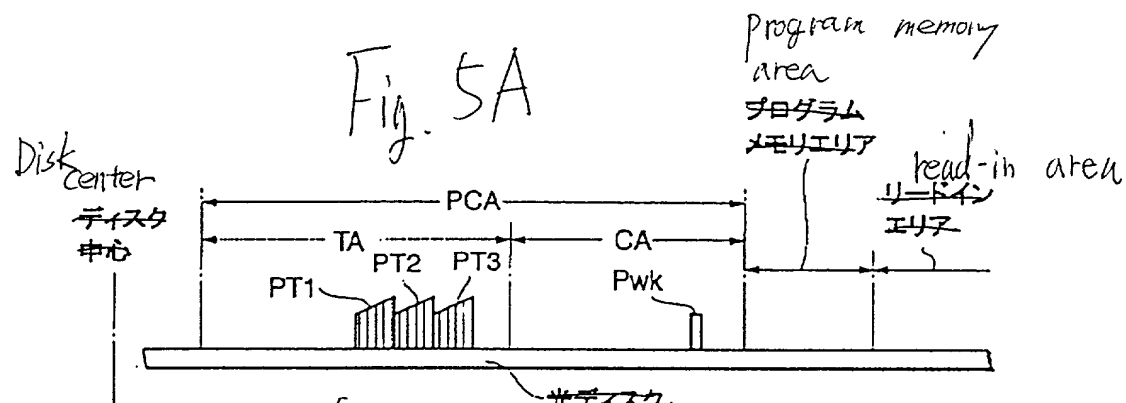


Fig. 5B

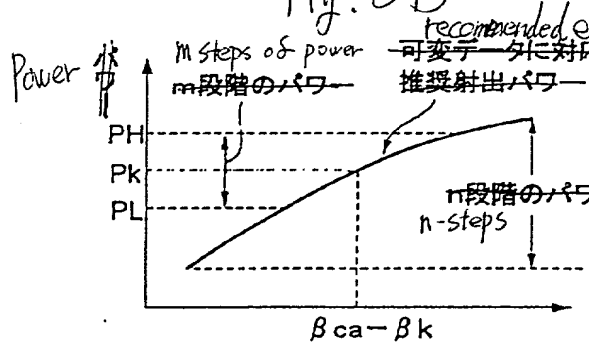


Fig. 5C

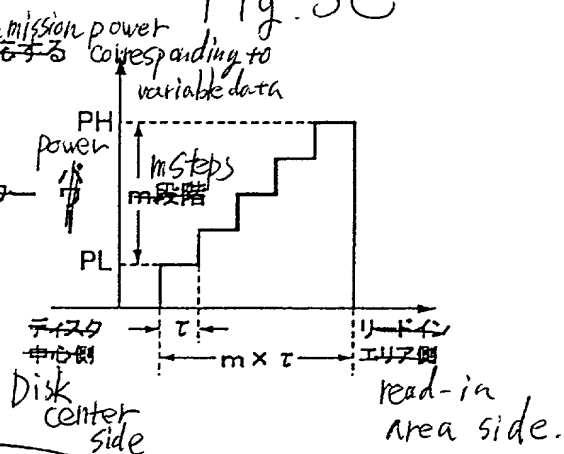
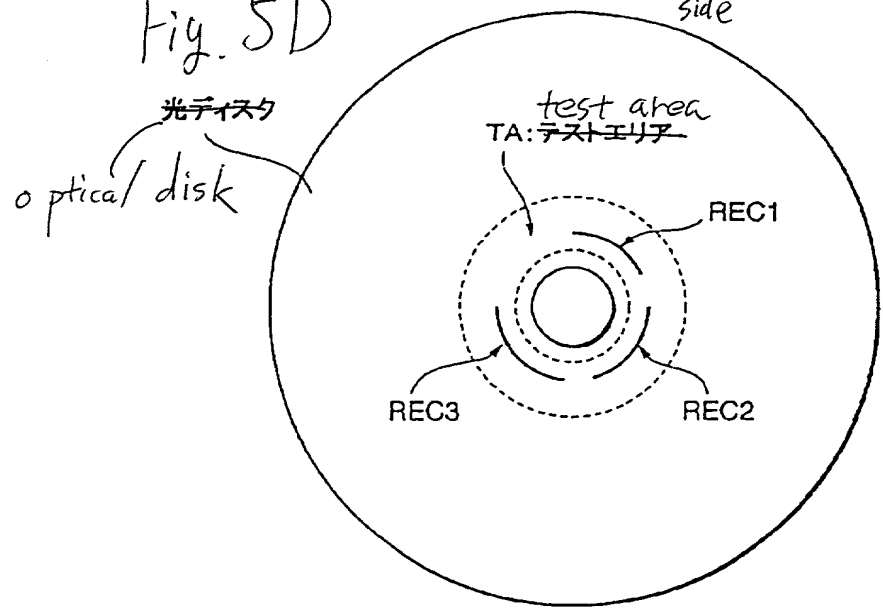


Fig. 5D



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Fig. 6

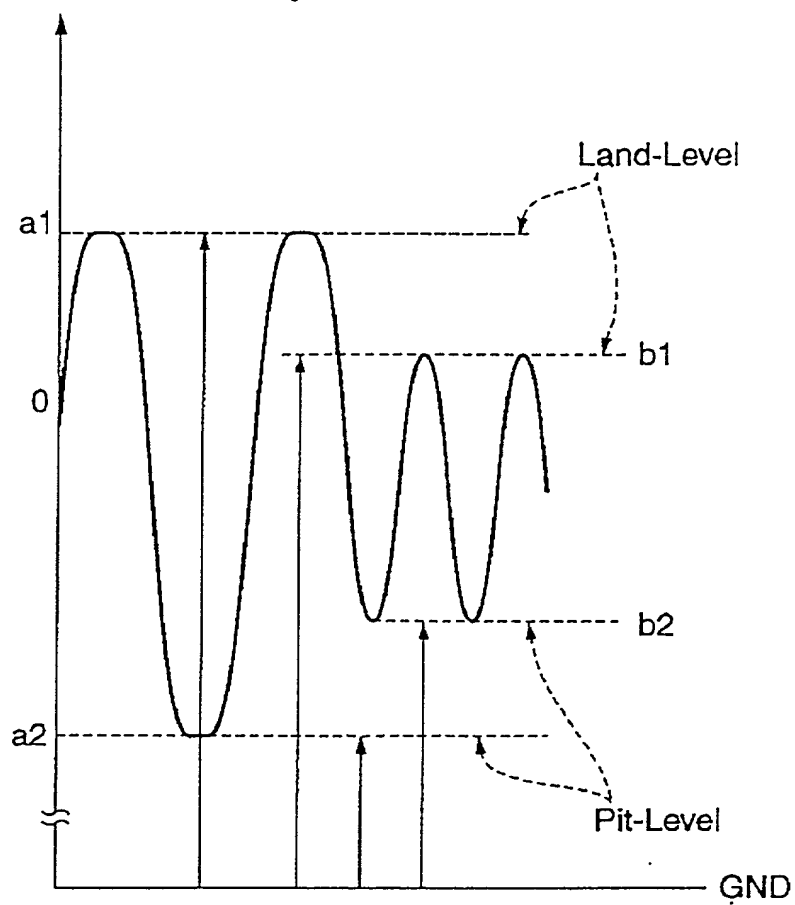
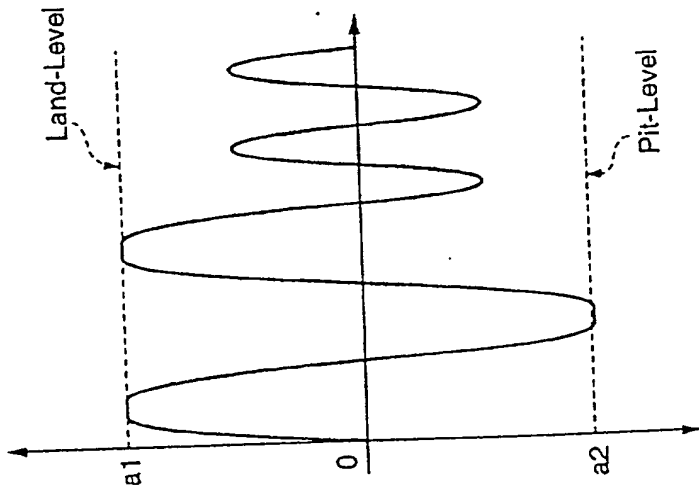
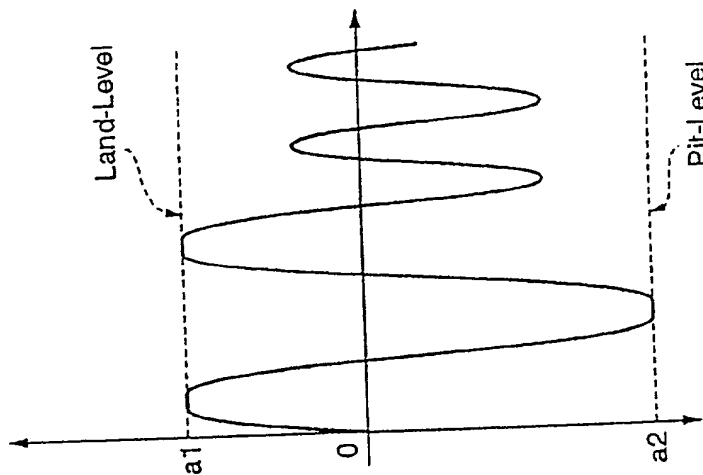


Fig. 7A



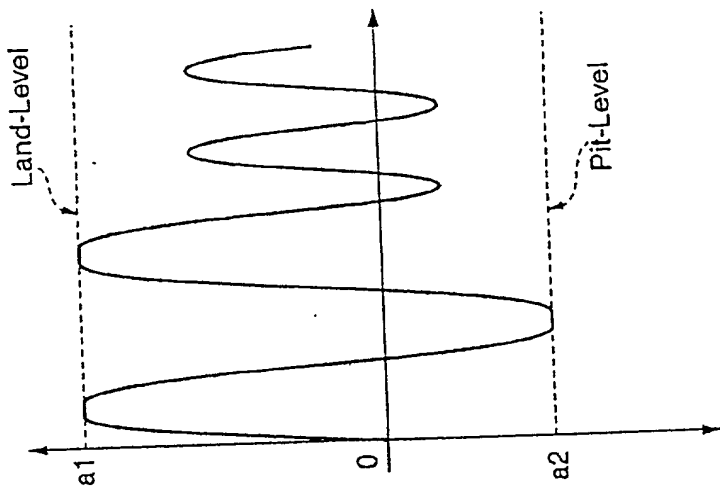
$(\beta = 0)$

Fig. 7B



$(\beta < 0)$

Fig. 7C



$(0 < \beta)$

Fig. 8A

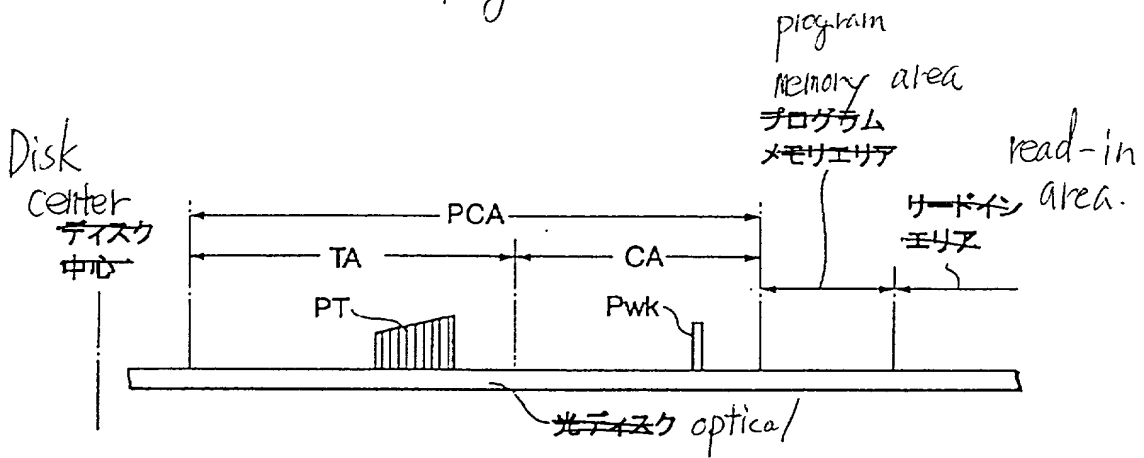


Fig. 8B

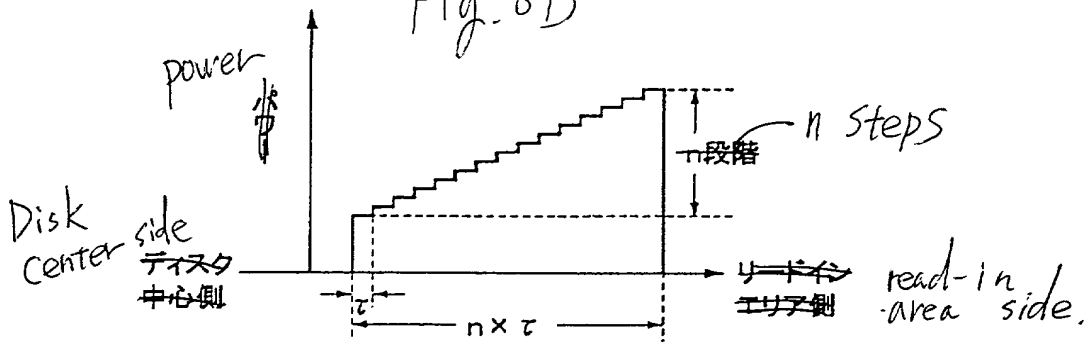


Fig. 8C

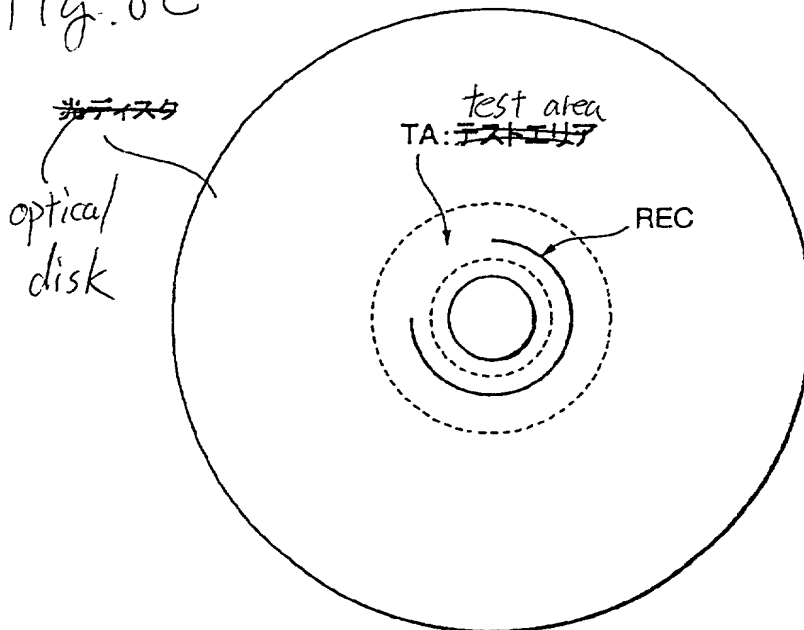
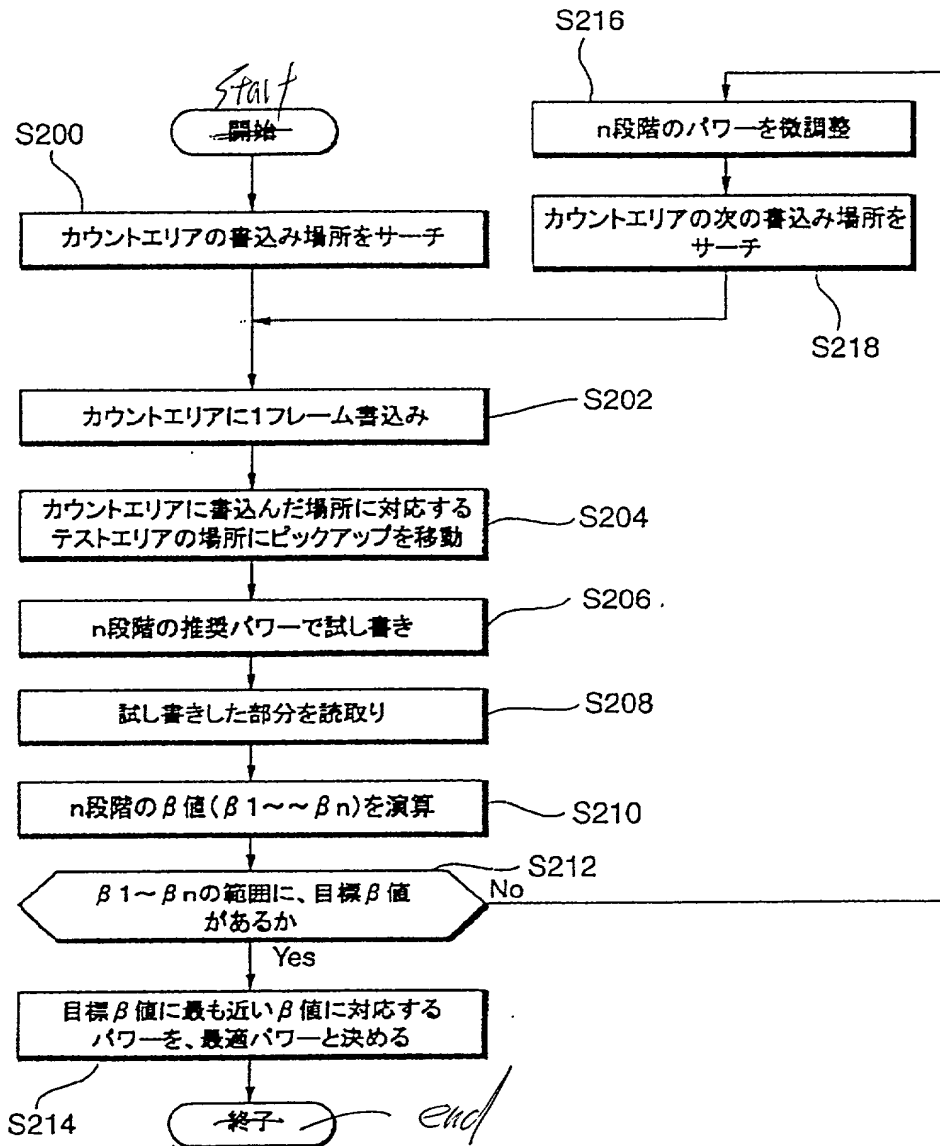


Fig. 9



- S200 SEARCH FOR WRITE LOCATION OF COUNT AREA  
 S202 WRITE ONE FRAME INTO COUNT AREA  
 S204 MOVE PICKUP TO LOCATION OF TEST AREA CORRESPONDING TO WRITE LOCATION INTO COUNT AREA  
 S206 WRITE FOR TRY AT n STEPS OF RECOMMENDED POWER  
 S208 READ TRIAL WRITE PORTION  
 S210 CALCULATE n  $\beta$  values  
 S212 DOES TARGET  $\beta$  value LIE IN RANGE OF  $\beta_1$  TO  $\beta_n$ ?  
 S214 DETERMINE THAT POWER CORRESPONDING TO  $\beta$  value CLOSEST TO TARGET  $\beta$  value IS OPTIMUM POWER  
 S216 FINELY ADJUST n STEPS OF POWER  
 S218 SEARCH FOR ANOTHER WRITE LOCATION OF COUNT AREA

# COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

INFORMATION RECORD APPARATUS, INFORMATION RECORD METHOD, AND  
INFORMATION RECORD MEDIUM

the specification of which:

is attached hereto; or

was filed as United States application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable); or

was filed as PCT international application Number \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ and was amended under PCT Article 19  
on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office information which is material to the patentability of claims presented in this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or §365(a) of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

## PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S):

COUNTRY (if PCT, indicate PCT)	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED
Japan	P. 2000-292361	26/September/2000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Combined Declaration For Patent Application and Power of Attorney - (Continued)  
(includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:

I hereby claim the benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATIONS

U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NO.	U.S. FILING DATE

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) or §365(c) of any PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to the patentability of claims presented in this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

PRIOR U.S. APPLICATIONS OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S. FOR BENEFIT:

U.S. APPLICATIONS		STATUS (Check One)		
U.S. APPLICATION NO.	U.S. FILING DATE	PATENTED	PENDING	ABANDONED

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the registered practitioners of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP included in the Customer Number provided below to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and direct that all correspondence be addressed to that Customer Number.

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Direct Telephone Calls To:  
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202-467-7658

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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

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Listing of Inventors Continued on attached page(s)    ☐ Yes    ☒ No